



Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

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First Quarter 1999 Quality Initiative Report

October 1998 – December 1998

Quality Indicators

ALTCS Developmentally Disabled Indicators

AHCCCS and the Department of Economic Security/Division of Developmental Disabilities (DES/DDD) identified seven indicators for the developmentally disabled (DD) population.

Hospital and ER Utilization: Since there is no comparable population, FY 1995 and 1996 data will be compared with the information in the first report which is for FY 1994. The second report on this indicator was completed during this quarter. After increasing to 7.22% (1995) from 7.05% (1994), the percentage of members with acute hospital stays dropped to 6.67% in 1996. The ratio of hospital stays per member averaged around 1.5 for all three years.

The quality indicators, DD Health/Safety in Group Homes and DD Program Monitoring in Group Homes were reported in October 1997. Further reporting on the two indicators was discontinued because the licensure authority was transferred to another agency which does not have the monitoring available to provide the data needed for the reports.

National Core Indicators Project

In the fall of 1997, Arizona was chosen as one of seven states to pilot the National Core Indicators Project (CIP) which is being developed in collaboration with the Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) and the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services, Inc. The DES/DDD will represent Arizona in this program. Because of the time the program will demand from DES/DDD staff, AHCCCS is requesting that the collection and reporting of data for the majority of the quality indicators for ALTCS DD members be suspended for approximately two years.

AHCCCS will continue collecting DD indicator data for Hospital and ER Utilization, Childhood Immunizations and Members Receiving Dental Services. Reporting for Childhood Immunizations and Dental Services for DD members will be included in the acute indicator reports.

DES/DDD has concluded its involvement with Phase I of the CIP. The Division's

Management Team is reviewing the data and is identifying and developing strategies for specific implementation plans for targeted, continuous quality improvement. Phase II of the CIP will span the period from January 1999 through June 2000.

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